

Application No. 10/707,317

Remarks:

The following response is to the office action dated March 21, 2005 in the above identified patent application.

As the Examiner stated that the application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, formal replacement drawings are submitted in preparation for the application to issue. The formal replacement drawings have not had any amendment changes from the informal drawings that were filed with the above identified patent application.

In the office action on page 2, paragraph 1, the Examiner stated that the applicant has invoked 35 C.F.R. Section 112, paragraph 6, with the claim language "means for" in the claims. As the "means for" claim language was invoked numerous times and as the specification is quite long at 50 pages, the Examiner asks that the applicant to point out in the specification where the applicant is invoking each "means for" limitation.

In response, the following is presented:

Claim 1:

(c) means for rotatably mounting said first and second gate members externally to said conduit...

Specification reference:

Paragraphs; 113, 114, 115, 116, and 121

Claims 1 and 17:

(d) means for moving said first and second gate members between the fully

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closed position and the fully open position...

Specification reference;

Paragraphs; 117 and 121

Claims 1 and 17;

(e) means for substantial fluid sealing between said conduit outlet and said first gate member, between said conduit outlet and said second gate member, between said first and second gate members, and between said first and second gate members interface and said conduit outlet...

Specification reference;

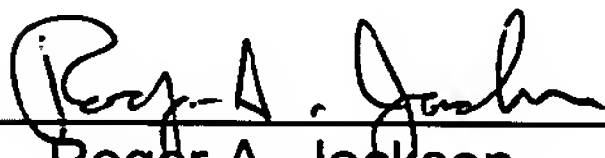
Paragraphs; 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, and 126

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Applicant respectfully requests that a timely notice of allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

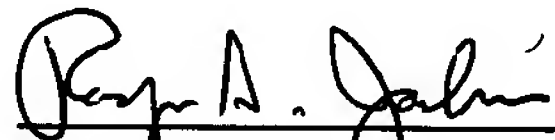
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that the attached **TRANSMITTAL LETTER RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 21, 2005 AND TRANSMITTAL OF FORMAL DRAWINGS INCLUDING FIVE (5) SHEETS, COMPRISING FIFTEEN (15) FIGURES** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Prepaid First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner of Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 21ST day of May 2005.



Roger A. Jackson